Quality inspection centres for marine products in Andhra Pradesh

1863. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MPEDA is setting up 15 Quality Inspection Centres in Andhra Pradesh for Marine products;

(b) if so, the details of the locations of such Centres being set up by MPEDA;

(c) by when such Centres would be functional;

(d) whether MPEDA is also educating marine products farmers to improve the quality of their produce; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is setting up two laboratories for testing for antibiotic residues and microbiological analysis of marine products in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The laboratories are to be located in Bhimavaram and Nellore.

(c) These laboratories are likely to be functional by May, 2003.

(d) and (e) MPEDA has been educating aquacultural farmers by conducting farmers meets, workshops, training programmes, village level campaigns etc., for improving the quality of their produce.

Sea-food export

1864. SHRI NANDIYELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh contributes 48 percent of the country's Rs. 6,400 crores worth of sea-food export annually;

(b) whether a large number of processing units and export houses in the sea-food industry in Andhra Pradesh have been closed;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have taken any action towards giving several concessions, incentives and subsidies for re-opening of closed processing units and export houses in the sea-food industries of Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLE): (a) Against the total export of seafood products valued at Rs. 5957.05 crore from India during the year 2001-02, the export from the ports in Andhra Pradesh amounted to Rs. 956.53 crore, which accounts for 16.1%. The contribution of Andhra Pradesh to total Shrimp Exports is estimated to be around 48% in value terms.

(b) Except for seasonal closures, which are routine in the marine products processing industry, no large scale closure of fish processing units and export houses in Andhra Pradesh has been reported.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) There is no scheme for giving concessions, incentives and subsidies for reopening of closed processing units and export houses.

Exhibition International Stonemart, 2003

1865. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an exhibition International Stonemart, 2003 was organized in Jaipur in the month of February, 2003;

(b) the name of the countries which had participated in this exhibition, local and international, company-wise;

(c) the outcome of the exhibition indicating whether International trade agreements were signed in favour of stone industries of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India Stonemart 2003 was held in Jaipur in February, 2003 in which India, Italy, France, Greece, Iran, Netherlands, Singapore, South Korea, U.K., Turkey, USA, UAE, Ireland, Japan, Lebanon, Spain, Nigeria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Russia, Kuwait, Portugal, Canada, New Zealand, China, Indonesia and Malaysia participated. As many as 150 Indian Companies participated in the Fair. The details of international companies are as under: